

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISTANB 02380 190928Z  
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-15 /032 W  
-----111832 190929Z /20

P R 190554Z JUL 77  
FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY  
SECSTATE WASHDC 9038  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA

UNCLAS ISTANBUL 2380

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: CU/ARTS: ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

ALVIN AILEY DANCERS UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS. COMPANY PERFORMED TWO NIGHTS TO SRO AUDIENCES WITH LITERALLY THOUSANDS OF TICKET SEEKERS TURNED AWAY. FIRST TIME IN ISTANBUL FESTIVAL HISTORY TICKETS SCALPED AT AS MUCH AS THREE TIMES OFFICIAL PRICE. MANY TURKS REMARKED THAT AILEY COMPANY OUTDREW EVEN MOSCOW'S BOLSHOI BALLET AND AUDIENCE RESPONSE EVEN WARMER. COMPANY'S BEST RECEIVED NUMBERS WERE INTERPRETATION OF NEGRO SPIRITUAL MUSIC.

MEMBERS OF COMPANY, HEADED BY AILEY, HAVE DELIGHTFUL PERSONALITY, MIX EASILY AND WELL WITH HOST COUNTRY PERFORMERS. THUS, PERFORMANCE IMPACT FURTHER EXTENDED BY INFORMAL LUNCH/RECEPTION HOSTED BY CONSUL GENERAL, AND IMPROMPTU PARTY GIVEN BY TURKEY'S MOST INFLUENTIAL PUBLISHER. AUDIENCE CONSISTED OF WHO IS WHO IN TURKEY AS WELL AS YOUNG, AND LESS AFFLUENT. INDICATIVE KIND OF ATTRACTION COMAPNY PRESENTED WAS FACT THAT, FOR INSTANCE, MANAGING EDITOR MOST INFLUENTIAL TURKISH NEWSPAPER WHO NEVER ACCEPTS INVITATION TO ANYTHING CAME TO PERFORMANCE AND LATER JOINED

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PUBLISHER'S PARTY.  
FEELING IN ISTANBUL SUMMED UP BY ISTANBUL FESTIVAL DIRECTOR WHO SAID, "IT WAS A (FINANCIAL) STRUGGLE TO BRING AILEY COMPANY HERE, IT WAS A STRUGGLE TO ORGANIZE THE PERFORMANCES, BUT IT WAS WORTH EVERY MOMENT OF IT. IT WAS TRULY A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE."

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** SCUL, US, TU, ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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